

**SPEECH BY NUSS PRESIDENT MR EDDIE LEE
AT THE NUSS DIALOGUE 2017
7 April 2017, Friday
6.30pm at Kent Ridge Guild House**

1. Address the audience

1. His Excellency Mohammad Ashraf Ghani,
President of the Islamic State of Afghanistan,

His Excellency Ngurah Swajaya,
Ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia,

Distinguished guests,
Fellow NUSS members,
Ladies and gentlemen

Good evening and a very warm welcome to NUSS, the National University of Singapore Society.

We are deeply honoured by President Ghani's presence this evening and we thank you for consenting to speak to our members and guests at this NUSS Dialogue session.

2. About the NUSS Dialogue

2. The NUSS Dialogue is part of NUSS' commitment to promote intellectual discourse among the members and contribute to Singapore's political and intellectual development.
3. This is done through platforms like this evening, where we invite distinguished leaders to share their insights on issues that are of significance and relevance to Singapore and the region.

4. Over the recent years, we were very privileged to have Ministers, Ambassadors and University Professors share their knowledge with our members at NUSS, offering them opportunities of diverse intellectual views. These are organised by our Intellectual Pursuit Sub-Committee, chaired by Mr Jeffrey Khoo.

4. Introduce the session

5. Three weeks ago we were delighted to learn from Dr Michael Gautama, Chairman of the Indonesia Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KADIN) Singapore Committee, that the Chamber would be happy to facilitate His Excellency's visit to NUSS.

6. We were very grateful indeed for this opportunity and even though the notice to our members may be short, we were confident that the response will be good. We have proved to be right. The response this evening is better than good.

7. Thank you very much, Michael for the arrangements and also for agreeing to be the moderator tonight.

8. I understand President Ghani will share with us his insights on trade and investment opportunities in Afghanistan.

9. He will also touch on the importance of moderate Islam in our region, which is also important for us as a multi-racial and multi-religious country.

10. I am sure that all of us will benefit greatly from President Ghani's sharing and I wish all of you a pleasant and stimulating evening.

11. Thank you.